

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2019
5:00 PM

Present: Richard Schadewald, Cheryl Weber, Susan Molenaar, Jay Tibbetts, Cynthia Brown Sullivan

Excused: Karen Sanchez

Others Present: Steve Deslauriers, Barbara Vanden Boogart, William Acker, Erik Pritzl, Anna Destree, Ann Steinberger, Zach Kroening, and Andrea Kressin

1. Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions

Chairman Richard Schadewald called the meeting to order. Mr. Schadewald welcomed new Board member Cynthia Brown Sullivan. Cynthia stated she is a physician and lives in Ledgeview.

2. Annual Election of Board of Health Chairperson, Vice Chairperson per Chapter 35.01(5) of the Brown County Code of Ordinances

NOMINATION: Richard Schadewald for Chairperson. Tibbetts / Molenaar

MOTION: To elect Richard Schadewald as Chairperson by unanimous consent. Tibbetts / Sullivan

MOTION CARRIED

NOMINATION: To elect Jay Tibbetts as Vice-Chairperson. Schadewald / Molenaar

MOTION: To elect Jay Tibbetts as vice-chairperson by unanimous consent. Schadewald / Weber

MOTION CARRIED

3. Approval / Modification of the Agenda

MOTION: To modify and approve the agenda by moving Correspondence after Approval of Minutes of November 13, 2018. Tibbetts / Molenaar

MOTION CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of November 13, 2018.

MOTION: To approve the minutes from November 13, 2018. Weber / Molenaar

MOTION CARRIED.

5. Correspondences

Submission of January 14, 2019, email from Joe Van Deurzen to Troy Streckenbach resigning from the Board of Health. Placed on file.

6. Communication Plan for Groundwater Exceedance

District 20 County Supervisor Steve Deslauriers stated this agenda item was referred from the Human Services Committee and it centers on the future proposed landfill site in Southern Brown County in the Town of Holland. At that site there are baseline monitoring wells where the county is testing to get a baseline of the environmental condition of that site prior to the construction of the land fill. He stated he would give a brief background of what happened and why he is here, what his concerns are, and why he is

asking for action from the Board of Health. Mr. Deslauriers stated back in December a round of testing was done on the baseline monitoring wells at the dumpsite, which included over 20 wells that were tested back in December of 2017. He stated TCE (trichloroethylene) and methylene chloride were found in those wells. Port and Resource Recovery's contractor, who did the testing, tried to figure out what happened and proceeded with two further rounds of testing; one in December 2017, one in February 2018, and one in April 2018. Mr. Deslauriers stated he heard nothing about the contamination of those 20 plus wells until the Director's Report at the Planning Development and Transportation (PD&T) meeting. At that meeting, Mr. Deslauriers asked if any of the neighbors had been contacted and was told it was just trace amounts. After that meeting, he was given a report that showed the levels of contamination, the extent of the contamination, and that no source was identified. Mr. Deslauriers submitted an untitled document summarizing the test results. He stated there were 152 statutory exceedances in over 20 wells. He stated they ranged from very small exceedances to over 160 times the state preventative action limit, which requires action be taken at that point. He stated no communication outside of Port and Resource Recovery up to that July PD&T meeting had taken place; a full 7 months after the known contamination took place. The three tests showed not a decreasing level but in his estimation, an increase in level and this was not relayed to the residents.

He ultimately contacted Director Pritzl on August 3rd and Erik Pritzl then communicated to our Health Officer, Anna Destree. Three days later, which he thought was an appropriate action, they contacted the DNR, who manages these events. Mr. Deslauriers continued with his fact finding and emailing back and forth to the DNR. He stated the summary from the DNR reported was how Port and Resource Recovery handled it once the DNR was involved was appropriate. He stated they never spoke to the appropriateness of the delay in communication. Mr. Deslauriers stated the cause of the contamination was bailers, devices they use to pull samples from the wells; specifically the adhesive used in those bailers appeared to be the cause of the TCE and methylene chloride. His concern is that they did not know the cause until September of the following year, a full 10 months after the known contamination, and 11 months from the contamination event. Since then he has been stating informally at every PD&T meeting that Director Haen attends, that he did not think the action taken was appropriate, and asked how to do you do this different if this exact event were to happen tomorrow.

Mr. Deslauriers stated he put in a communication to the County Board to make this a formal process because of difficulty making any movement while it was privately being considered in PD&T. Mr. Deslauriers stated at the August meeting the question was asked by the Human Services members to Health Officer Destree, "Would you have liked to be notified earlier?" The response was, "I would have preferred to have been notified earlier." Mr. Deslauriers stated he made the motion to refer to Corporation Counsel to give direction what he thought was appropriate actions for future events. The response given was to ask Port and Resource Recovery Director Dean Haen to follow the recommended communication guidelines specified by Corporation Counsel in his 11-27-18 email to Supervision Schadewald and Mr. Deslauriers which stated, "To notify the Wisconsin DNR within 60 days whenever we have a sample that attains or exceeds a ground water standard and especially to follow any and all Wisconsin DNR recommendations concerning this issue." Mr. Deslauriers stated Director Haen's communication for future well contamination events at three separate PD&T meetings would not follow this Corporation Counsel guidance. Mr. Deslauriers is looking for action by the Board of Health to say that this is not acceptable. He agrees with the logic and the pattern of investigation but what he does not agree with is keeping it quiet and only involving the DNR when someone else asks questions.

Mr. Schadewald stated he encouraged the Board of Health to do due diligence but to then talk to Anna and Erik to see what would be best for the Board of Health to recommend. Jay Tibbetts asked Anna how she would have acted when this was first discovered. Anna stated she would have made the recommendation to contact the DNR. Anna stated her question would be "is the DNR involved yet because the DNR is

ultimately the responding agency.” Mr. Deslauriers said the contaminate turned out to be something introduced with the bailers in the wells. It was not an environmental contaminant.

Mr. Schadewald asked Anna if we had a policy in Brown County. Anna stated she is not aware of a County policy. Anna stated they are starting to have conversations that if something happens out of the ordinary, how we update each other so we are aware of what is going on and that the proper agency is notified.

Cheryl asked if the DNR had any requirements. Steve Deslauriers indicated he could supply DHS Chapter 140. He states the language is clear but he thinks Corporation Counsel is on the middle ground by saying that it may not be specifically required because it is not an actual landfill yet. He recommends 60 days, which 60 days mirrors what is in DHS Chapter 140 for ground water protection.

Mr. Schadewald asked for the future should Brown County departments that have any discovery of contamination have a policy that they report it to the Health Department. Mr. Schadewald asked if Erik had a plan for that. Erik states it seems reasonable that we would want the departments involved with different angles of concern to be communicating. Mr. Pritzl stated they were trying to figure out the point source and they are looking at those wells. He stated we are thinking bigger issues and thinking how the DNR is involved and then start advising us of who can we notify and when and what are the concerns. He stated it makes sense that we are communicating and bringing all those resources to bear. Mr. Schadewald asked if we had a policy now. Erik indicated that we do not. Mr. Deslauriers indicated Troy signed a policy this month that particularly addresses this and only goes to the Risk Manager, which is one-step too short.

Mr. Schadewald said that if the Board of Health feels this is enough of a concern that we would make a motion.

MOTION: That the Human Services Committee draft and enact a policy relative to incidents of contamination by any government agency or detection of contamination in exceedance of State Statues because we find the situation with the Port authority delay unacceptable.

Schadewald / Tibbetts

MOTION CARRIED.

7. Nursing Unit Update

Ann Steinberger indicated influenza has been relatively mild this flu season. Ann stated there have been many GI outbreaks in long-term care facilities and it is the community. Our Public Health Nurse position is filled and the nurse started the end of December. We have one nurse who will be retiring.

Ann stated we received notification of funding from the State for CD funding. That funding cycle stated July 1st and goes through June 30th. We have a few months to figure out what we are going to do to increase awareness about communicable disease.

Before Christmas, we had a campaign where nurses went to certain bars and put up posters, two of which are on record. These ads targeted establishments where families would not go. There was an article in the Press Gazette regarding the campaign and it was shared nationally.

Ann indicated that the medical college reached out to us. They have a research project to get parental perceptions of the health education their child is receiving in school. We are collaborating with them to promote their survey. They hope to have 200 complete the survey. Cheryl asked if the survey was targeting the parents and Ann indicated it was. Anna stated what they believe to be true is that the parents would like more education but they hypothesize that the school thinks the parents do not. What they think they will learn from the study is that the parents actually want more education on it and that is what they are

looking to find out. Anna stated, in other words, does the parent perception match to school perception right now.

Ann stated we had a case of meningitis. It was a cooperative effort with De Pere. All contacts were treated and no additional cases. She stated in 2018 we investigated 10 cases of people where providers thought that the person had TB disease.

Ann stated we were contacted by the Department of Health Services and Zach was contacted by the Department of Agriculture, because one of our cases of Shiga-toxin e. coli matched several other people in the State. It turns out there are about 14 people nationwide that are potentially related to this. Zach's team investigated and they collected information from the possible areas and then handed that over to Department of Agriculture for follow-up and now we are waiting. Anna stated our teams over Thanksgiving went through the ground turkey recall. Because of the work the Nursing and Environmental teams did, there was a nationwide recall on turkey. Whether it is a current threat or not, we can look at processes and provide education.

Ann stated she was asked to share information at the January Human Services Committee about our reminder and recall system that we are using for individuals whom either are behind in immunization or are due for an immunization. Currently we are using a response that is available from Pfizer. Ann stated we are required under our grant to do a reminder recall system. We do a report and our health aides confirm details according to the Immunization Registry. The reports are sent to this HIPAA compliance, Televox, to send out letters. Anna took this procedure to our internal HIPAA committee and corporation counsel and they indicated we were not violating any HIPAA laws

8. Environmental Unit Update

Zach Kroening stated we are in the process of gathering information and looking at taking on transient non-community well water program through the DNR. We would be testing for chloroform bacteria, ecoli and nitrates. Our vacant sanitarian position was filled in mid-December so we are fully staffed for Sanitarians. The next step we will be interviewing for the Environmental Technician position who will inspect the tourist rooming houses. The Room Tax Commission wanted to find which places in Brown County are not licensed. They purchased this STR Helper which tracks down the tourist rooming houses.

9. Community Engagement Unit Update

Andrea Kressin stated an offer was made for the Public Health Planner position and we are finalizing details. This person will guide us through the accreditation process. We are in the committee process in terms of hearing and vision. We proposed a position change to hire an educator to support the Hearing and Vision Program to work in partnership with the nurse who is currently coordinating efforts along with health aide support. A new grant opportunity is related to a chronic disease prevention grant that the State of Wisconsin approached Brown County because of some outreach that our Community Engagement team had been doing in terms of diabetes awareness and prevention with at risk populations in our community. Casa Alba, NEW Community Clinic, ADRC, and others have been having conversations around diabetes management and awareness and the State applied to the CDC for funding to support some of these initiatives because of the work we were already doing. We are putting together an 18-month action plan that will wrap up in mid-year 2020. The focus will be on diabetes and cardio-vascular disease prevention and early detection and management.

10. Health Officer's Report

Anna stated Erik Pritzl would talk more about case management resource. Erik stated there were questions about case management resources and what the department does for mental health, substance use, or disability. Erik submitted a Case Management Services Overview, which describes what we do. He stated it

describes the programs that we offer based on regulations or a partnership with the State. It talks about eligibility briefly and then funding. All these programs depend on medical assistance eligibility so we can be reimbursed for the service.

Anna stated we are in the final stretch of the move. Ann pointed out the great work that is being done by staff. The incident command system is used to management emergency events. We can use this as an example of how we respond as an agency to planning an event.

Anna stated the Beyond Health group is working and doing a charter on what are the roles of the Steering committee. We have had two planning sessions. She thought it was important to note that they are going through that process.

Anna stated we are looking at updating Public Health Ordinances and recognize that they are outdated. Chapter 37 needs to be updated to include current code reference. We are working with Corporation Counsel as part of our accreditation process to update other policies and ordinances.

We will be evaluating our home visitation program and look towards Nurse Family Partnership. At the March 12th meeting, we will give a presentation on how we intend to evaluate the home visitation program. It is a community program and we will get feedback from partners and community members.

11. Public Health Legislation – Standing Item

12. Receive New Information on Wind Turbines – Standing Item

William Acker submitted "*Wind Turbine Hosts Clive & Trina Gare Hosted 19 Wind Turbines on Their Land and Became Ill upon Start-up,*" by William Acker dated January 15, 2019, which states wind turbines in Australia were hosted by the Gare Family. Because of the 2010 installation, the Gare's became ill. They reported their experiences to the Senate Select Committee and risked losing their compensation for hosting the wind turbines by speaking to them. He states this disproves the "green eyed monster of jealousy" theory. Mr. Acker also submitted an article printed from <https://stopthesethings.com> entitled "*SA Farmer Paid \$1 Million to Host 19 Turbines Tell Senate they 'Would Never Do it Again' due to 'Unbearable' Sleep-Destroying Noise,*" which is about Clive and Trina Gare.

Mr. Acker presented his document "*Jay Tibbetts Visit to Dave Enz Home June 8, 2016,*" prepared by William Acker dated January 15, 2019, which describes Jay Tibbetts experiencing a condition called Fight or Flight Response. Mr. Acker read this document to the Board and it is on file.

Mr. Acker also submitted "*Future Renewable Electricity Production from 2017 to 2050 for the USA & the Impact on Wisconsin,*" by William Acker dated January 15, 2019, which is on file and talks about solar energy increasing over the 17 years, from 2017 to 2050, by 28.8% per year, but wind turbines over that same period of time will experience an increase of 2.27% per year.

Barbara Vanden Boogart stated in the affidavits that people never experienced the Fight or Flight Response prior to the wind turbines being installed. She stated not only did Dr. Tibbetts experience this but three teachers have experienced this as well. There have been four county supervisors that have experienced symptoms because of their exposure in the project as well as an attorney. It is not just people that live there that have symptoms but visitors as well.

13. Comments from the Public
None.

14. All Other Business Authorized by Law

Dr. Tibbetts would like a rural representative on the Board of Health.

Mr. Schadewald will send a thank you to Joe Van Deurzen for his years of service.

15. Adjournment / Next Meeting Schedule (March 19th, 2019)

Motion to adjourn at 6:40PM

Brown-Sullivan / Molenaar